

ABSTRACT

A process for preparing a water-absorbent resin made from an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid as an essential monomer characterized in that the process comprises allowing a metal chelating agent to be present at any step in the process in an amount of 0.001 to 6 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid; and adding a reducing agent or an oxidizing agent thereto in an amount of 0.001 to 6 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid before initiation of drying and/or during drying of a gelated product containing a water-absorbent resin obtained by polymerization.